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1973/03/27

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EUR-[illegible]
EA-[illegible] (FYI)

SECRET
Classification

Department of State

TELEGRAM 73 MAR 27 PM 5 37

26

CATE:
COLLECT
CHARGE TO USDEL FRANCE

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ACTION:

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJECT: GVN/PRG Bilateral Meetings.

ACTION: SecState WASHDC

INFO: Amembassy SAIGON

USDEL FRANCE 07570

~~EXDIS~~ SK

REF: A. USDEL 7520
B. Saigon 4963

SS [illegible]

EA/[illegible]: OK with ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible]

Exdis
~~[illegible]~~ REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S
Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S

Reviewed by: EKelly
Date: 8-29 1978

K605-4

ok to release with deletion
Ekel
5/5-

15-16
Exdis
6

1. GVN Del [redacted] told USDEL officers March 27, they believed Hanoi had not yet made fundamental decision as to whether to continue and /renew military effort or to turn to political struggle, and until such decision were made GVN/PRG talks would not show progress. (They always used term "NLF" to refer to PRG and considered NLF totally controlled by Hanoi.)

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ACTION:

2. Within this framework [redacted] asked whether DRV Del to JEC seemed serious and whether DRV economic plans involved consumer goods as well as development aid. Our affirmative reply on both counts was greeted with satisfaction by [redacted] as at least one indication Hanoi might choose path of peace.

3. They further stated view, which they said was that of their Del and of GVN, that Hanoi's decision would be guided by arrangement among US, USSR and China with regard to peace in SVN. When we remarked Hanoi might have its own views, they noted Hanoi's need for assistance and said we overestimated Hanoi's independence of action.

4. We noted semi-official Saigon daily Tin Song had said secret GVN/PRG bilaterals were taking place (Ref B). [redacted] responded that GVN had suggested this but NLF had not accepted and so far/none had taken place.

ISHAM

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